



Congressman Tim Bishop

FIRST DISTRICT -- NEW YORK

NEWS RELEASE

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BISHOP APPLAUDS SECURITY UPGRADES AT PLUM ISLAND

Washington, DC—Congressman Tim Bishop released the following statement about the Department of Homeland Security's decision to deploy armed agents from the Federal Protective Service to supplement private security patrols at the Plum Island Animal Disease Center:

"We all recognized that unarmed guards alone are not an adequate defense in the face of an attack, which is why this is a big step in the right direction. But because the threat to the Island is constant, I believe we need around-the-clock security.

"Additionally, as we approach the two-year anniversary of the Local 30 strike, I continue to believe one of the most important steps we can take to increase security is to return that experienced workforce to the Island.

"I applaud the Department of Homeland Security for boosting security, which takes us closer to meeting the recommendations in the GAO Report. These armed officers provide for a much more effective response unit on the Island. However, we still need to do more in terms of keeping local first responders in the loop."

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